

22 bishops, including those in the colonies, with 22,000 secular clergy, 14,000 monks, and 10,000 nuns. The Bible is strictly prohibited by the ruling priests in Portugal, and the Portuguese people are debased by superstition, and by ignorance of the true doctrines of Christianity.

Popery in England.—Efforts the most determined and energetic, aided by the whole hierarchy of the Papacy, especially by the Jesuits, have been made for a series of years to increase the number of Roman Catholics in England. These have, in a small degree, succeeded, especially by crowds of immigrant labourers from Ireland, and by an extraordinary expenditure, furnished largely by wealthy Catholics on the Continent, in the erection of some new churches and chapels in different parts of the country. The Pope even dared to map out a scheme of dioceses in England, for his priests to officiate as local archbishops and bishops but this was put down by an Act of Parliament. Still there has been some progress, but it is small, considering the great increase of our population, and the recent secession of above one hundred of the more superstitious of the clergy of the Church of England. These had been trained in high Popish notions, to regard themselves as priests, authorised to administer sacraments and to forgive sins, according to the anti-Protestant notions popularly taught at Oxford, directed chiefly by Dr. Pusey, a Professor of Divinity in the University.

Popery in France.—Though France is regarded as the principal Roman Catholic country, it has appeared inclined to throw off the Papal yoke, even though it is held by a mighty hierarchy. So grossly had the French nation been deluded with the Popish ceremonies and superstitions, that the more intelligent portion of the people became infidels, as is the case generally in Roman Catholic nations, even in Italy, and in the metropolis of the Pope. The progress of infidelity occasioned the dreadful revolution at the close of the last century in France. The resentment of the people was then poured forth with terrible effect on the monarch, and especially on the priests, thousands of whom were sacrificed to the fury of the ruling powers. The monarchy, with the legitimate dynasty, was restored after a quarter of a century; but, the Romish priesthood have been found to give their support to an arbitrary form of government, neglecting the instruction of the people, the Bourbon dynasty was again overthrown in 1830, when the Romish Church was cut off from being the religion of the State, and free toleration established for other forms of religion in France. Still, as the Roman Catholic was the professed religion of the majority of the French people, the usual salaries were continued to the priests.

The Romish hierarchy in France consists of 40,429 priests, among whom are 1 metropolitan archbishop, 6 cardinals, 13 other archbishops, and 64 bishops; their salaries from the Government amount to about 42,114,052 francs annually, besides a much larger sum for the repair and enlargement of their sacred edifices, and an amount probably equal from surplus fees. Besides this regular army of 40,429 clergymen, the country is again covered by 565 monasteries, and other immense religious establishments.

Clerical Colleges	203
Missionary Establishments in the Interior....	48
Establishment of Freres de la Doctrine.....	761
Hospitals or Charitable Institutions.....	939
Boarding-schools for Young Ladies.....	1012
Small Colonies of Sœurs de la Charite.....	3379

6342

Notwithstanding the vast resources of the priesthood in France, and the vigorous efforts made by the hierarchy, aided by the Jesuits, for the support of their system, many things betoken its entire subversion. It is well known that very serious differences in doctrine exist among the Catholic priests; they are opposed to the progress of the age, and learning is not liberally encouraged by them, even in that department which is Biblical and theological. Still, learning is advancing in France, to the injury of priestism; and scriptural knowledge increases among the people, even among the Catholics, through the active zeal of Protestants in the circulation of several millions of copies of the Bible, furnished by the liberality of the British and Foreign Bible Society.—*Christian Witness.*